Hi Nicola,

first of all we need to know whether the files are in HDF4 or HDF5, as
the data structure and thus the routines for reading differ berween the
two. I guess you can't avoid looping over all the files, but of course
you don't have to read each file completely. For HDF4 and HDF5 there
are options to read only individual datasets. In therory it should also
be possible to extract just the one plane, but I never did that.

Cheers,

   Peter